

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0078] (page 46, line 16 to page 47, line 4) as follows:

[0078] The dialkyl carbonate obtained by the method of the present invention contains a carbonate ether represented by the above-mentioned formula (2). The lower the cyclic ether content of the cyclic carbonate, the lower the carbonate ether content of the dialkyl carbonate produced. However, for producing a cyclic carbonate having extremely low cyclic ether content, the cyclic carbonate must be produced by a complicated method which is not practical for commercial production. Therefore, in the present invention, the cyclic carbonate ether content of the dialkyl carbonate produced is not more than 10,000 ppm, preferably in the range of from 1 to 10,000 ppm, more preferably from 3 to 5,000 ppm, still more preferably from 10 to 3,000 ppm.